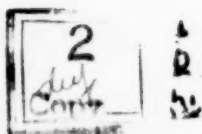


# AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

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**FEDERAL PRESIDENT RENNER TO CELEBRATE 80th BIRTHDAY.** Dr. Karl Renner, President of the Federal Republic of Austria, celebrated his 80th birthday on December 14 in undiminished physical vigor and mental alertness. The occasion was marked by heartiest best wishes and congratulations sent to the octogenerian not only from Austrians in all walks of life but also from all parts of the world. The ceremonies and celebrations held in honor of the President's 80th birthday in Austria were highlighted by a special session of the Austrian Parliament on December 14, which will be reported in the next issue of the "Austrian Information" bulletin.

Dr. Renner was born on December 14, 1870, in Unter-Tannowitz, Moravia. He attended high school in Nikolsburg and studied law at the University of Vienna. His career which began as a parliamentary librarian soon led to his appointment as Custodian of the State Archives. He was first elected to Parliament in 1907, after which he founded and assumed official status in several Socialist cultural societies, while publishing successful books on political science.

In November 1918, the Constituent National Assembly of the First Austrian Republic appointed him head of the State Chancellery, and later Chancellor. From May to September 1919 he headed the Austrian peace delegation to the Conference of St. Germain where he was one of the signers of the peace treaty. After five months as Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (from July to November 1920), Dr. Renner was elected President of the Nationalrat (Lower Chamber of the Austrian Parliament), a position which he held until November 1923. In 1929 he was reelected to that post and also became a member of the executive committee of the Social-Democratic Party, where he specialized in the field of labor cooperatives. When the Socialist workers, in defense of Austria's Democratic Constitution, rose against the Dollfuss régime in 1934, Dr. Renner was one of the first Socialist leaders to be arrested (February 13). After three months' confinement he was released, but a ban was imposed on his political activities. He lived in Vienna and, in 1938, after the occupation of Austria by the German Army, went to live at Gloggnitz in Lower Austria. On April 3, 1945, he formed the first Provisional Government of the Second Republic and became its Chancellor.

After the general elections of November 1945, he was elected Federal President for a term of six years.

**CHANCELLOR FIGL COMMENTS ON THE CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION.** In a speech delivered in Vienna on November 30, Austrian Chancellor Leopold Figl gave a brief outline of Austria's position in the current international situation. He expressed the belief that it was precisely in these days of growing world tension that the conclusion of an Austrian State Treaty could be regarded as a safety valve for the maintenance of world peace. "We know," the Chancellor said, "that our small country, which is occupied by the Big Four and is situated at the confines of the world's two great spheres of power, can only be the loser in any international breach of the peace. For us Austrians, as for possibly no other nation in the world, the preservation of world peace is a basic question of life or death. We believe that our greatest contribution to the preservation of world peace is that the Austrian Government, by way of compromise between the country's two leading parties, is pursuing a policy which embodies a middle-of-the-road program and favors the equitable promotion of all interests." In closing Dr. Figl said: "We believe that by our example of sensible cooperation we are making a greater contribution to the world than by staging, and taking part in, purely propagandistic congresses and meetings."

**DR. GRUBER REVIEWS AUSTRIAN FOREIGN POLICY.** The debate on the Foreign Ministry's budget in the plenary session of the Austrian Parliament gave Foreign Minister Dr. Karl Gruber the opportunity to outline once more on December 7 the basic principles and general direction of





Austria's foreign policy. These had already been presented by Dr. Gruber in the comprehensive report he made to the Budget Committee of Parliament on November 15 (see "Austrian Information" bulletin of November 30, Vol. III, No. 15). In his survey of December 7 the Austrian Foreign Minister said, among other things, that peace could not consist of one side being given the opportunity to impose its will arbitrarily or to simply occupy weaker neighbors. It was in this connection that the active steps taken by the United Nations assumed their greatest historical importance. The independent existence of small nations could be safeguarded and saved only if the world adhered to the principle of solidarity. Dr. Gruber availed himself of the opportunity afforded him to stress once more that no comparison could be made between Korea and Austria, because the latter was a unified country with a centralized government, and because it was therefore not possible for one half of the country to organize any kind of military operations against the other. With respect to the State Treaty, Dr. Gruber said that if peaceful conditions endured the Treaty would be concluded on that day on which even a great power would have to recognize that a small country had the right to maintain order in its own house without having its internal regime dictated to by others. In the further course of his report, the Foreign Minister refuted sharply the Communist assertion that the struggle against Fascism had not yet been brought to an end in Austria. In fact, he said, Austria had probably gone further in combatting Fascism than any other European country. In a series of free elections Austria had proven that it was on the side of Democracy. There was hardly any other country in Europe which had made so many sacrifices for peace with so much patience. "We have not provoked anyone", Dr. Gruber said, "nor have we ever failed to respect the Soviet Union as a Great Power. But we shall never concede that for us the interests of the Soviet Union are identical with those of the Austrian Communist Party."

Speaking in the name of the Socialist Party, Deputy Dr. Koref expressed regret that the State Treaty negotiations were being drawn out endlessly. Every Austrian realized, he said, that the obstructions placed in the way of the Treaty emanated from Moscow. "We acknowledge our allegiance to Democracy, to Western civilization; it is on the basis of these principles that we want to take our stand on the idea of European federation. We aspire to membership in the United Nations and passionately embrace the principle of world peace. To come nearer to our goals, we demand that the Austrian State Treaty be placed on the agenda of the next four-power conference. It is precisely because of the horrible tragedy that has befallen the people of Korea that we cannot tear from our hearts the confidence and faith we have in the overwhelming power of the will to peace of all nations in the West and East. We do not want to, and cannot, give up the hope that the two centers of world power today, Washington and Moscow, may finally still find a way to settle their differences."

#### DEPUTY CHANCELLOR SCHAEERF VISITS BEVIN, AND OTHER BRITISH LEADERS.

During a brief visit to London, Austria's Deputy Chancellor, Dr. Adolf Schaerf, was received by British Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin and Undersecretary Lord Henderson on December 1. The conference permitted an extensive exchange of views. Later in the day, Mr. Bevin gave a luncheon in honor of Dr. Schaerf at the Foreign Minister's official residence. Among those present at the luncheon were Anthony Eden, former Conservative Minister for Foreign Affairs; Clement Davies, the leader of the Liberal Party; Undersecretary of State Lord Henderson; Mr. Mallet, Britain's special Deputy for the State Treaty negotiations and Dr. Wimmer, Austria's Envoy to Britain. During his London visit Dr. Schaerf, who was recently reelected Chairman of the Austrian Socialist Party, held a series of conferences with leading parliamentary and political figures of the Labour Party. The Austrian Deputy Chancellor also had occasion to hear the foreign policy speech delivered in the House of Commons by Prime Minister Attlee before the latter left for Washington. From London Dr. Schaerf proceeded to Brussels where he attended the Belgian Socialist Convention as the delegate of the Austrian Socialist Party.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN THE BURGENLAND. In the municipal elections held on November 26 in the Burgenland, Austria's easternmost province now occupied by the Russians, returns from the province's seven electoral districts gave the following popular vote: People's Party





75,377, corresponding to 2,051 seats; Socialist Party 69,940 equivalent to 1,535 seats; the Leftist Bloc (Communists) obtained a total of only 3,453 votes or 29 seats. Before the election the Communists held 247 municipal seats, to which they had been appointed in 1945 on the basis of their strength - now diminished - in the Federal Parliament. The Burgenland had its last free local elections in 1932. Now that the Burgenland has held its municipal elections, which proceeded without any incidents or unrest whatever, all of the country's nine federal provinces now have democratically elected local representatives.

"OESTERREICHISCHER BEOBACHTER" SUSPENDED BY ALLIED COUNCIL. In its meeting of December 8 the Allied Council unanimously voted to suspend for two months the publication "Oesterreichischer Beobachter" because it printed certain articles with National-Socialist, Pan-German and militaristic tendencies.

AUSTRIAN BISHOPS RESCIND PREVIOUS REGULATIONS FOR CHURCH MARRIAGES.

In their fall conference held in Vienna on November 21 and 22, Austria's bishops issued a new regulation for church marriages which is to go into effect immediately. The new order revokes their previous instructions of July 18, 1938, pertaining to the introduction of compulsory civil marriages in Austria, according to which members of the clergy were enjoined to perform a religious marriage ceremony only after conclusive evidence had been presented that a civil marriage ceremony had already been performed.

Austria's Minister of Justice Dr. Tschadek, a member of the Socialist Party, commented on this decision of the Austrian Bishops Conference in a speech he delivered in the Burgenland. Speaking in the name of the Austrian Socialist Party, he assured the country that the Socialists had no desire to fight a "Kulturkampf" with the Catholic Church but that they objected to such unilateral decisions on the part of the ecclesiastical authorities without prior consultation with the organs of the state. He stated that marriages could be contracted only if they were in compliance with constitutional law. Inasmuch as the separation of Church and State had been largely accomplished in Austria, Dr. Tschadek concluded, it would lead to incidents if Church marriages were performed without first obtaining evidence that the right to marry had been satisfactorily established by the civil state authorities.

GENERAL EDDY IN VIENNA. On December 4 Lt. Gen. Manton S. Eddy, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. 7th Army in Europe, conferred in Vienna with U.S. High Commissioner Walter Donnelly and the Commanding General of the Vienna garrison of U.S.F.A., General Swift.

COMMUNIST JOURNALISTS EXPELLED FROM AUSTRIAN NEWSPAPERMEN'S UNION.

The Austrian Newspapermen's Union, a section of the Union of Liberal Professions in the Austrian Federation of Labor, unanimously voted at an executive committee meeting held on November 25 to expel the editors-in-chief of the Communist press in Austria. The expulsion was motivated by the fact that the Communist papers reported the recent abortive Communist general strike in a manner calculated to seriously damage the authority of the Federation of Labor and to counteract its decisions. The union's executive committee stated specifically that the expulsion of the Communist editors-in-chief was in no way motivated by political considerations or the fact that they belonged to any given political party, but was solely the result of their serious violations of union discipline. The ouster affects the editors-in-chief of the following Communist papers: "Oesterreichische Volksstimme", "Der Abend", "Tagblatt am Montag", "Neuer Vorwaerts", "Neue Zeit" (Linz), "Salzburger Tagblatt", "Tiroler Neue Zeitung", "Wahrheit" (Graz) and "Volkswille" (Klagenfurt). Likewise expelled from the union was Communist leader and parliamentary Deputy Ernst Fischer for an article of his that appeared in the Russian "Literaturnaja Gazeta" of October 12, 1950.

AUSTRIAN CIVILIAN POPULATION ENDANGERED BY SOVIET AIR MANEUVERS. On November 21, a number of Russian military aircraft flew over the localities of Wolfpassing, Traunfeld and Obersulz in Lower Austria and engaged in extensive gun practice, according to an official Austrian account. Two of the projectiles from the planes seriously wounded a 51-year-old peasant woman. The two bullets have been handed over

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to the Soviet Control Commission. The Austrian Government has lodged repeated protests against such incidents, which have been seriously endangering the safety of the Austrian civilian population in Lower Austria, but these have remained without any concrete results.

RUSSIANS DEPLETING AUSTRIAN OIL RESOURCES. In its issue of November 24, the "Sozialistische Korrespondenz" reported that the Soviet Petroleum Administration in Austria has been actively seeking new high-yield deposits of petroleum since 1949. The test borings in the Burgenland had produced no results, but three of the twenty test wells sunk in the Aderklaa (Lower Austria) region were now yielding some 400 tons of oil per day. The Aderklaa deposits are second only to the Matzen wells in Lower Austria, where new sources of petroleum were discovered at a depth of 1600 meters (1 meter equals 3.28 feet) in the summer of 1949; today these yield a daily output of 800 to 1000 tons. Intensified prospecting for oil has also begun in Bockfliess. As there is only a single oil pipeline from Zistersdorf to the Lobau refinery, this additional output must be transported to the refinery in tank cars. The current monthly production of all Zistersdorf oil fields is estimated to exceed 100,000 tons. The "Sozialistische Korrespondenz" points out that the damaging drain of Austria's petroleum resources which characterized the Nazi exploitation during the war is being zealously continued by the Russians. Oil circles have estimated the petroleum desposits of Zistersdorf at about eight million tons.

CONFISCATION OF AUSTRIAN ASSETS IN THE "PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES". On December 3, "Die Presse" published a survey of the Austrian external assets and properties, representing a total value of several billion schillings, which have been seized and expropriated in various Eastern and Southeastern European countries during the last few years. Austrian real estate in the "People's Democracies" amounts to about 473,000 hectares (1 hectare equals 2.47 acres). In addition, Austrian property in these countries includes more than 8,200 houses or real estate interests, about 2,000 industrial and handicraft enterprises or industrial holdings, more than 20,000 movable assets and about 23,000 foreign deposits and accounts receivable. Austria's largest number of assets are in Czechoslovakia. These include claims for 269,000 hectares acres of landed property, 7,000 houses, 1300 industrial and handicraft enterprises, 19,000 movable assets and about 21,000 deposits and other receivables. So far, Czechoslovakia has refused to enter into any negotiations for the release of these assets or for their compensation. In Hungary, many Austrian industrial holdings were simply turned over to the Soviet Union as "German Assets". Thousands of acres at the Burgenland and Styrian borders have been expropriated from their Austrian owners. In Rumania, Bulgaria and Poland too, Austrians have lost many assets and considerable property as a result of seizure, nationalization or agrarian reform. The final disposition of Austrian external assets in Yugoslavia, which include 175,000 hectares of real estate, will be subject to special settlement in accordance with Article 45 of the State Treaty draft.

Negotiations are now being conducted with many Western European and overseas countries for the release of Austrian assets which had been confiscated during the war. Switzerland, Sweden, Italy, Belgium, Greece, Turkey, Iran, the United States, Argentina and Brazil have already released the Austrian assets in their countries. In England, the Netherlands, Denmark and Egypt, Austrian assets are still being administered under court custody. A special settlement is being considered with France. Negotiations with the Netherlands are still in their preliminary stage.

SINCE WAR'S END AUSTRIA HAS GRANTED CITIZENSHIP TO 151,230 ALIENS. During the budget debate in the Austrian Parliament, the Minister of the Interior revealed that between the end of the war and August 31, 1950, Austria had granted citizenship to 151,230 aliens, 59,580 of whom in Vienna. As of October 10, 1948, Austria's total population was 6,952,744.

ALMOST A HALF MILLION AUSTRIAN PRISONERS OF WAR BACK HOME. In the course of a debate on the budget of the Ministry of the Interior in the Austrian Parliament, it was announced that since 1945 a total of 487,814 Austrian prisoners of war had returned home. Of these,





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140,740 came back from the United States, 134,500 from England, 136,694 from Russia, 58,520 from France, 15,250 from Yugoslavia, 1500 from Belgium and 600 from Poland. The number of Austrian prisoners of war still in the Soviet Union was estimated at four to five thousand as of the end of March.

AUSTRIA'S BALANCE OF PAYMENTS. The latest issue of the "Reports of the Austrian National Bank" presents a survey of Austria's current balance of payments, computed in dollars because of the changes in the schilling's rate of exchange during the past few years. The balance sheet total has increased from 350.4 million dollars in 1947 to 529.83 million in 1948 and 643.25 million in 1949. The first six months of 1950 show a total of 301.53 million dollars, which represents a slight decrease compared to the previous year.

The major entries on the credit side relate to Austria's exports and the foreign aid she has received from abroad. The first of these credit items amounted to 291.53 million dollars in 1949; this figure includes the export of 5.67 million dollars' worth of electric power. In comparison, the 37.78 million dollars' worth of services exported by Austria were only an insignificant contribution to her balance of trade. During the same year, foreign aid amounted to 300.13 million.

The major item on the debit side of the ledger represents imports which (including ERP deliveries, other aid and electric energy purchases) amounted to 603.64 million. Services rendered to Austria and interests she paid on loans totalled 21.6 million.

During the first half of 1950, exports (including electric power deliveries) amounted to 148.28 million dollars, services rendered by Austria to 18.36 million and foreign aid received to 124.26 million. On the debit side, imports were made for a total of 274.77 million dollars, of which commercial imports totalled 195.90 million and ERP deliveries 75.83 million. Services received and interest paid accounted for 13.99 million dollars.

AUSTRIA'S FOREIGN TRADE CONTINUES ITS FAVORABLE TREND. The favorable trend in the development of Austria's foreign trade continued through the month of October. Exports reached a new record high of 675 million schillings, as compared to 592 million in September and 493 million in August. Although commercial (i.e. non-ERP) imports increased from 439 million schillings in August and 530 million in September to 580 million in October, the country's commercial balance of trade showed a credit balance of 95 million schillings, something which had never occurred before. If the ERP imports, which in October amounted to a value of 130 million schillings, are included, the total trade balance for October showed a debit of only 35 million. Austria's main supplier and client in October was Western Germany. Austrian exports to Western Germany have more than doubled since April. In the October list of commercial suppliers, the United States was second, with deliveries amounting to 95 million schillings; as a client, the United States ranked fourth, with imports from Austria valued at 45 million.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF AUSTRIAN TRADE TREATIES. Austria has recently initiated a new trade agreement with Western Germany which, when officially ratified by the two countries, as expected, will be retroactive to November 1, 1950. Under the new trade treaty Austria will export to Western Germany steel, lumber, pulp, paper, textiles, and magnesite in exchange for German coal, chemicals, fertilizer, machinery, and electrotechnical materials.

Negotiations for the conclusion of a trade treaty between Austria and Yugoslavia were recently initiated in Belgrade, according to the Austrian Federal Press Service. Austro-Yugoslav trade relations have been based on the Protocol of the Mixed Commission dated November 1949, but import and export quotas stipulated by the Protocol expired in October.

Negotiations with France for a new trade agreement with that country will attempt to eliminate a serious disadvantage to Austria which the previous trade treaty, soon to expire, had contained. Although the existing treaty includes a comprehensive list of goods to be imported from Austria, it was impossible for Austrian exporters to avail themselves fully of these possibilities because French customs

1. The first step in the process of the development of a new product is the identification of a market need. This is often done through market research, which can be conducted in a variety of ways, including surveys, focus groups, and interviews. The goal is to understand what customers want and need, and to identify any gaps in the current market.

1. The first step in the process of the investigation is the identification of the problem. This is done by the investigator who is assigned to the case. The investigator will then gather information about the problem and the people involved. This information will be used to develop a plan of action. The plan of action will be based on the information gathered and the investigator's own experience. The plan of action will be used to guide the investigation and to ensure that the problem is solved. The investigator will then implement the plan of action and will monitor the progress of the investigation. The investigator will then report the results of the investigation to the appropriate authorities. The results of the investigation will be used to develop a plan of action to prevent the problem from occurring again. The investigator will then implement the plan of action and will monitor the progress of the investigation. The investigator will then report the results of the investigation to the appropriate authorities. The results of the investigation will be used to develop a plan of action to prevent the problem from occurring again.



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duties and other difficulties kept down Austrian exports to France. This made French clearing accounts in Austria insufficient to expand Austrian exports, even though the treaty quotas were not exhausted. The Austrian delegates at the forthcoming negotiations will give special attention to a possible increase in Austrian exports to French North and West Africa.

VIENNA SPRING FAIR INVITES VISITORS FROM ABROAD. The Vienna Spring Fair, which will be held next year from March 11th to the 18th, is provoking considerable interest in broad circles at home and abroad. In addition to the Fair's usual display of various domestic and foreign products, the management is planning for next year a special exhibition of "Austrian Forestry", a general agricultural show of fattening animals, and a wine-tasting event featuring Austrian white and red wines.

By obtaining a Fair certificate from the Office of the Austrian Trade Delegate, 25 Broad Street, New York 4, the prospective visitor will be granted a 25% fare reduction on Austria's Federal Railroads and a 20% reduction to the Vienna State Theaters. A great number of artistic events at the Vienna Opera and in the theaters and museums of the Austrian capital will enable visitors to combine business with pleasure.

NEW AUSTRIAN TRADE DELEGATE IN THE U.S. Mr. Alfred R. Bleyleben has been appointed Austrian Trade Delegate in the United States as of January 1, 1951, replacing Mr. George E. Fuerstenberg whose leave of absence from a leading Austrian corporation has expired and who will therefore return to Austrian private industry.

Mr. Bleyleben, who arrived in New York a few days ago, was formerly active in the Federal Chamber of Commerce later a member of the Austrian State Treaty delegation, and finally head of a division of the Federal Chancellery's Central ERP Agency in Vienna.

His predecessor as Austrian Trade Delegate in the United States, Mr. Fuerstenberg, was first active in the Information Department of the Austrian General Consulate in New York prior to his appointment as head of the Office of Austrian Trade Delegate at the time of its establishment in May 1950.

The major efforts of the Trade Delegate's office are directed at the intensification of Austria's dollar export drive. It makes publically available complete documentary information on Austrian business firms, Austrian export products and trade leads, official regulations and, generally, all data relating to foreign trade with Austria. The Office of the Austrian Trade Delegate is located at 25 Broad Street, New York 4, N.Y. (Telephone: BOWling Green 9-0056).

AMERICAN DEMAND FOR AUSTRIAN WROUGHT-IRON DECORATIVE ITEMS. The Office of the Austrian Trade Delegate in New York reports that American firms have considerably increased their demand for Austrian wrought-iron products during the past few weeks. The requests are primarily for Austrian wrought-iron tables and nests of tables, furniture fittings, lamps and wall brackets (with and without wiring), as well as other types of household decorative items. American firms interested in getting in touch with Austrian manufacturers of wrought-iron goods are invited to contact the Austrian Trade Delegate, Room 822, 25 Broad Street, New York 4, N.Y.

AUSTRIAN EMBROIDERED GOODS IN GREAT DEMAND. During the first half of 1950, Austria's embroidery industry, which is concentrated primarily in the Vorarlberg, Austria's westernmost province near the Swiss border, exported its fine quality products to all continents. At the present time, 90% of the industry's entire output is earmarked for export. From January to June of this year, Austria exported a record high of more than one and a half million dollars' worth of embroidery products.

INTERNATIONAL TRADES AND CRAFTS CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN VIENNA. The International Association of Trades and Crafts will hold its next congress in Vienna from May 27 through May 31, 1951, according to a decision adopted by the Association at its meeting in the Netherlands this year. Representatives from Great Britain, France, Italy, Norway, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland and numerous other countries have already announced their participation. On the occasion of the international congress, Austrian trades and crafts will exhibit their pro-

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ducts at a Trades and Crafts Show which will feature such special themes as "Culture and Industrial Crafts", "Reconstruction and the Industrial Crafts", "Housing and the Industrial Crafts", "Public Health", "Export Promotion and the Industrial Crafts", etc. The exhibition will be particularly instructive inasmuch as Austria's independent trade and craft enterprises still employ more workers than all of Austria's organized industries combined.

CHRISTMAS SHOW OF AUSTRIAN PRODUCTS. "Austrian Industrial Recovery as a Result of the Marshall Plan" is the theme of a fifteen-window display prepared by the United States-Austrian Chamber of Commerce and presently on view at the Rockefeller Center Office of the Colonial Trust Company, on Avenue of the Americas at 48th Street. The exhibit, which will remain throughout the month of December, features precision instruments, bicycles, small motors, electronic microscopes, ceramics, glassware, steel products, knitted goods, coats, felt hats, candies and hand-made Christmas decorations.

AUSTRIAN REGULATIONS FOR GIFT PARCELS TO AUSTRIA. The following information on Austrian rules and regulations concerning the receipt of gift parcels from abroad has been received at the Office of the Austrian Trade Delegate in the United States:

No customs duty is levied in Austria on gift parcels from the United States providing the following regulations are observed.

1. The shipment must be from person to person, that is, on an individual and personal basis.
2. The recipient of the gift parcel must be able to prove that it is indeed a gift parcel and not a concealed business shipment for the black market.
3. The amount of gifts contained in such parcels must bear a reasonable relation to the size of the recipient's family or household.
4. The value of each shipment must not exceed 300 Austrian schillings. The regulations pertaining to the mailing of so-called "type" parcels have been rescinded.

Within the scope of these regulations, gift parcels may contain all merchandise that can reasonably be expected to be intended for the personal use of private individuals.

AUSTRIAN WOOD CHEMISTRY EXPERTS VISITING THE UNITED STATES. Austria's two top experts in wood chemistry have come to the United States to learn how to make useful products from wood wastes, the ECA announced on November 28. The two research professors -- Mr. Karl Kratzl, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Vienna, and Mr. Anton Wacek, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Graz, Styria -- hope to learn American methods of deriving from lignin wastes a variety of products, ranging from plastics and wallboard to pharmaceuticals and vanillin flavoring. Specifically, the experts will study how U.S. lumber industries turn sawdust and other sawmill wastes into useful products profitably and how pulp and paper mills similarly use their waste materials.

ECA COUNTERPART FUNDS FOR AUSTRIAN FOREST PRESERVATION. Christmas-tree vendors in Vienna are getting ready for feet-chilling but heart-warming business in Vienna's traditional open-air markets. For these Christmas trees do more than act as a center of Austrian yuletide celebration; they are also a useful factor in putting Austrian forestry back on its feet.

Assisted by Marshall Plan counterpart funds, Austria's Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is trying to repair a quarter century of bad forestry practices. At the end of the war, 25% of Austria's total forested land was dangerously thinned out, and 250,000 acres were completely denuded. Austrian efforts to repair this damage were aided this year by the use of the equivalent of \$30,000 in Marshall Plan counterpart funds, which enabled the replanting of 37,000 acres. Quick revenue from the sale of young trees at Christmastime will be used for the purchase of more seedlings.

AUSTRIA'S 1950 VINTAGE TO REACH ONE MILLION HECTOLITERS. According to the latest reports, Austria's vintage this year will amount to one million hectoliters (26,418,000 gallons). The quantity expected is above the average for previous years, while the quality of this year's



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wine will vary considerably from region to region and will require judicious fermentation treatment. To date, Austrian wines have been exported to Czechoslovakia, Germany and the United States. The experience gained from these deliveries abroad is expected to lead to a considerable expansion of such export sales next year.

AUSTRIA TO INCREASE CELLOPHANE OUTPUT IN 1951. Austria's output of cellophane will exceed 130,000 lbs. per month after completion of the extensive expansion program now in progress at the Lenzing Zellwolle Company. The necessary viscose raw material for the production of cellophane will come from Lenzing's main plant, where it is available in quantities exceeding present demands. "Lenzing Zellwolle" is Austria's leading manufacturer and exporter of rayon staple fibre.

NEW HEAT-INDICATING TEST COLORS DEVELOPED IN AUSTRIA. A revolutionary plastic foil for heat tests has been developed in Austria, according to a recent report in the "Wiener Zeitung". Heretofore, heat tests had to be made by the direct application to the material of color pencils; the new method, however, prevents smearing of the material to be tested. One of the new Austrian test foils contains a yellow color which changes to red when the material to which the test foil is temporarily attached shows a temperature of more than 50 degrees Centigrade. Contrary to the color heat-testing agents known heretofore, the new foil reveals by sharply defined color spots what part of the material exceeds the critical heat. Another of these new foils is originally red but turns black when a temperature of 70°C. is exceeded. Both of these foils change back automatically to their original color when the heat of the test material returns to the admissible temperature, although other foils are available which retain the second color as a permanent record. The main advantage of the new foils is that they can be applied inconspicuously anywhere on the material and leave no trace after removal.

VIENNA CITY BUDGET SET AT 2 BILLION; 5,000 NEW HOMES TO BE BUILT. The 1951 budget for the City of Vienna, which was recently made public, calls for expenditures amounting to 2.019 billion schillings, or almost 300 million more than in 1950. For the coming year the city expects a revenue of 1.887 billion schillings, about 254 million more than had been anticipated in the 1950 budget. The estimated deficit in the municipal budget will therefore increase from 86 million (1950) to 131 million schillings (1951). Heading the list of contemplated expenditures is the cost of large-scale building projects, including construction maintenance, as well as the cost of extensive repairs of war-damaged structures. The city's total building appropriations will amount to 718.8 million schillings, or 35.5% of all expenditures in the ordinary budget. Three hundred and thirty million schillings have been earmarked for the building of new housing. The City of Vienna hopes that these funds will be sufficient to build 5,000 new apartments. Some 50 million schillings have also been set aside in the budget for an ambitious street construction and street improvement program, which is expected to provide work for some of the city's unemployed. Contemplated expenditures for bridge construction and water-works amount to 38.7 million schillings and those for canal construction to 15 million. The Municipal Water Works are planning to build a new reservoir in Steinfeld; the 1951 budget includes an initial appropriation of 8.5 million schillings for this project. The new reservoir will have a capacity of 500,000 cubic meters (1 cubic meter equals 35.316 cubic feet), making it the largest in Europe. The municipal administration hopes that the 4 million schillings allocated for the purpose will suffice to restore fully the city's parks and gardens. Municipal welfare services will receive 254 million schillings, ten million of which alone will be used for building and equipping new kindergartens. The school program, for which 99 million schillings have been allotted, includes the construction of three new schools and the urgent improvement of existing school buildings. Thirteen million schillings have been set aside for cultural activities. Vienna's 1951 municipal payroll will require an expenditure of 630.6 million schillings, or 33.6% of the entire budget.





ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS CAMPAIGN IN AUSTRIA. On the occasion of the formal opening of the "Tuberculosis" Exhibition in Vienna, Mayor Koerner gave a survey of the progress and success that the city had achieved in its fight against tuberculosis. Fifty years ago tuberculosis had been known as the "Vienna disease" and had claimed thousands of victims every year. As late as 1919, no less than 9,610 persons died of tuberculosis in Vienna; this high figure represented about one fourth of all deaths. By 1936, the rate had been considerably reduced: 1,985 people died of tuberculosis, representing only 8.4% of all deaths. After World War II the tuberculosis rate rose sharply, and, in the first year after the war, claimed the lives of 4,213 people, or 16.8% of all mortality cases. In 1949 the tuberculosis mortality rate dropped to a low of 1 per mill of deaths due to all causes, and, according to the 1950 figures available to date, is expected to decrease still further to 0.86 per mill. In this connection, Minister of Social Welfare Maisel stressed the extraordinary results achieved with Calmette vaccination in Austria. Although this vaccination had been in effect for only a year, 500,000 Austrian children have already received it.

AUSTRIAN PHYSICIAN ACHIEVES AMAZING RESULTS IN TREATMENT OF ANGINA PECTORIS. At a medical society meeting at the end of November, the Austrian physician Dr. Klausgraber read a paper on a new method of treatment for angina pectoris, which has already produced a series of remarkable results in spite of the short period of time it has been used. The new therapy, known as preventive anesthesia, consists in injecting the nerve-cell aggregations which accumulate in the lateral cervical passages with an anesthetizing fluid. The latter prevents an attack of angina pectoris by its reflex action via the cardiac nerves. Dr. Klausgraber reported that even after only a few such treatments patients were free from excruciating attacks for three to ten months on the average. This method of treatment is completely harmless and can be repeated as often as indicated, at suitable intervals, inasmuch as the body decomposes the injected fluid very rapidly. Dr. Klausgraber said that of the 63 patients who had been given this new treatment, 60 responded with marked success.

AUSTRIAN UNIVERSITY ATTENDANCE DURING THE 1949-50 ACADEMIC YEAR. The sharp upward trend which characterized Austrian university attendance after the war has somewhat fallen off during the past two years. The number of regular students registered at the various Austrian institutions of higher education during the 1949-50 academic year totalled 28,167, which represents a 12% decline from the attendance figure for the previous school year but is still 65% greater than it was in 1937-38. Of the men and women registered as regular students at Austrian universities for the 1949-50 winter semester, 40% were studying philosophy (in 1937-38 the figure was 31%), 29% (36% in 1937-38) medicine, 27% (23% in 1937-38) law and political science, and 4% (10% in 1937-38) theology. In this connection it should be remembered that the curriculum of the Faculties of Philosophy at Austrian universities includes all those courses which are generally part of the liberal arts and sciences curriculum at American universities. The percentage of women students attending Austrian universities during the 1949-50 academic year, namely 22%, was the same as during the previous year. The religious distribution of Austria's university students during the 1949-50 semester is reflected by the following percentages: Roman Catholics 80%; Protestants 11%; Old Catholics, members of the Greek Orthodox, Jewish and other faiths 1% each, and students with no avowed creed 5%. The geographical distribution of university attendance, as reflected by the percentages of students who went to the Universities of Vienna, Graz and Innsbruck, and the Theological Seminary in Salzburg, reveals an interesting shift toward the universities located in the western part of the country. During the 1949-50 winter semester, 61% of all Austrian university students attended the University of Vienna, 21% attended the University of Graz, 17% the University of Innsbruck, and 1% the Theological Seminary in Salzburg.

Of the total number of students, 2,679 or about 10% were foreign. The largest contingent of foreign students attending Austrian universities came from Germany, followed by students from Hungary and Bulgaria. Seventythree Americans were registered as regular students during the 1949-50 semester. The Information Department of the Austrian General Consulate, 509 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N.Y. (Tel. Murray Hill 7-4766) has published a bulletin dealing with the attendance of foreign students at Austrian universities. It is available free of charge on request.

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AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES TO COMMEMORATE RAINER MARIA RILKE. The memory of Rainer Maria Rilke, whose 75th birthday would have fallen on December 4, 1950, and the 25th anniversary of whose death falls on December 29, 1951, will be honored by a conference of the German literature departments of America's universities to be held on April 13, 1951. This conference will discuss Rilke's works and is to be held on the campus of Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois. Interested persons may contact Dr. Robert Rie, Bradley University, Peoria, Ill., who has been charged with the conference's organization. The tremendous significance of the Austrian lyric poet's work has been particularly appreciated by Austrian and German youth during the last few years. This was borne out by the results of a poll suggested by the Pen Clubs and taken by the well known drama historian Prof. Anton Kutschér, of Munich. The students he polled said that they regarded Rilke as the most significant poet in modern German literature. Second choice went to Gerhard Hauptmann, followed by Hermann Hesse and Thomas Mann. The Austrian writers Hugo von Hoffmannsthal and Franz Werfel were listed seventh and twelfth, respectively. A similar poll taken shortly before Hitler's seizure of power showed Rilke second, behind Thomas Mann.

HERMANN BROCH APPOINTED YALE PROFESSOR. The Austrian-born poet Hermann Broch, whose novel "Death of Virgil" is well known, was recently appointed Lecturer in Social Sciences at Yale University in recognition of his studies in the field of mass psychology. Hermann Broch, who has been living in the United States since 1939, plans to visit his native Austria in the near future.

PROGRAM OF THE 1951 INTERNATIONAL VIENNA MUSIC FESTIVAL. The 4th International Vienna Music Festival, which is scheduled to be held from March 31 to April 15, 1951, will be devoted primarily to the presentation of modern music. In addition to works by Béla Bartók, Karl Orff, Alban Berg, Zoltán Kodály, Martinu, Frank Martin, Paul Hindemith and Boris Blacher, the program will also include Benjamin Britten's "Spring Symphony" and his "Serenade for Tenor". Included among the first performances being prepared are: the waltz "Muenchen" by Richard Strauss, a Concertino for Violin and Twenty-one Wind Instruments by Alfred Uhl, a Christmas Motet for Soprano by Paul Hindemith, a Hymn based on a text by Lernet-Holenia composed by Gottfried von Einem, the orchestral suite entitled "Motto" by Theodor Berger, the Second Concerto for Chamber Orchestra by Johann Nepomuk David, and the Morgenstern texts set to music by the composer Friedrich Gulda, also known in the United States as a result of his recent concert tour in this country. The 1951 Vienna Music Festival will also present several contemporary stage works, including Igor Stravinsky's "Persephone" and "Les Noces", as well as Ernst Krenek's one-act opera "Tarquin".

FOREIGN GUEST APPEARANCES OF THE VIENNA STATE OPERA. The Vienna State Opera has been invited to make another official guest appearance in Brussels by the "Harmonie" of that city between March 9 and 15, 1951. In contrast to its previous guest performances in the Belgian capital, the Vienna State Opera company will present only one Mozart opera, namely "The Marriage of Figaro". The two other operas to be given will be Wagner's "Tristan and Isolde" and Beethoven's "Fidelio". Arrangements are now being discussed with the "Grand Opéra" in Paris for a guest performance of Richard Strauss' "Salome" by the Vienna State Opera.

FRENCH TRAVEL BOOK ABOUT SALZBURG AWARDED THE PRIX THORLET. The travel book, "Salzburg, Cité Ardente", by the French author Guy Mollet du Jardin was recently awarded the Prix Thorlet by the "Académie des Beaux Arts".

CONDUCTORS AND DIRECTORS FOR 1951 SALZBURG FESTIVAL NAMED. The management of the Salzburg Festivals recently released the names of the conductors and directors who will contribute their artistic talents to the 1951 Festival. These follow: Mozart's "Idomeneo" will be conducted by Georg Solti (Munich) and directed by Josef Gielen; the "Magic Flute" will be conducted by Wilhelm Furtwaengler and directed by Fritz Schuh; Verdi's "Othello" will be conducted by Wilhelm Furtwaengler and



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directed by Herbert Graf (New York); Alban Berg's "Wozzek" will be conducted by Karl Boehm and directed by Fritz Schuh; von Hoffmannsthal's "Everyman" will be directed by Helene Thimig; Kleist's "Amphytrion" by Berthold Viertel; and Shakespeare's "As You Like It" by Gustav Gruendgens. The seven orchestral concerts by the Vienna Philharmonic will be under the batons of Karl Boehm, Edwin Fischer, Wilhelm Furtwaengler, Raphael Kubelik, Georg Solti and Leopold Stokowski.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE SALZBURG FESTIVAL. This year's Salzburg Festival had a deficit of some 1,750,000 schillings, which is smaller than last year's. Total receipts amounted to slightly more than 102 million schillings and total expenditures to about 104 million.

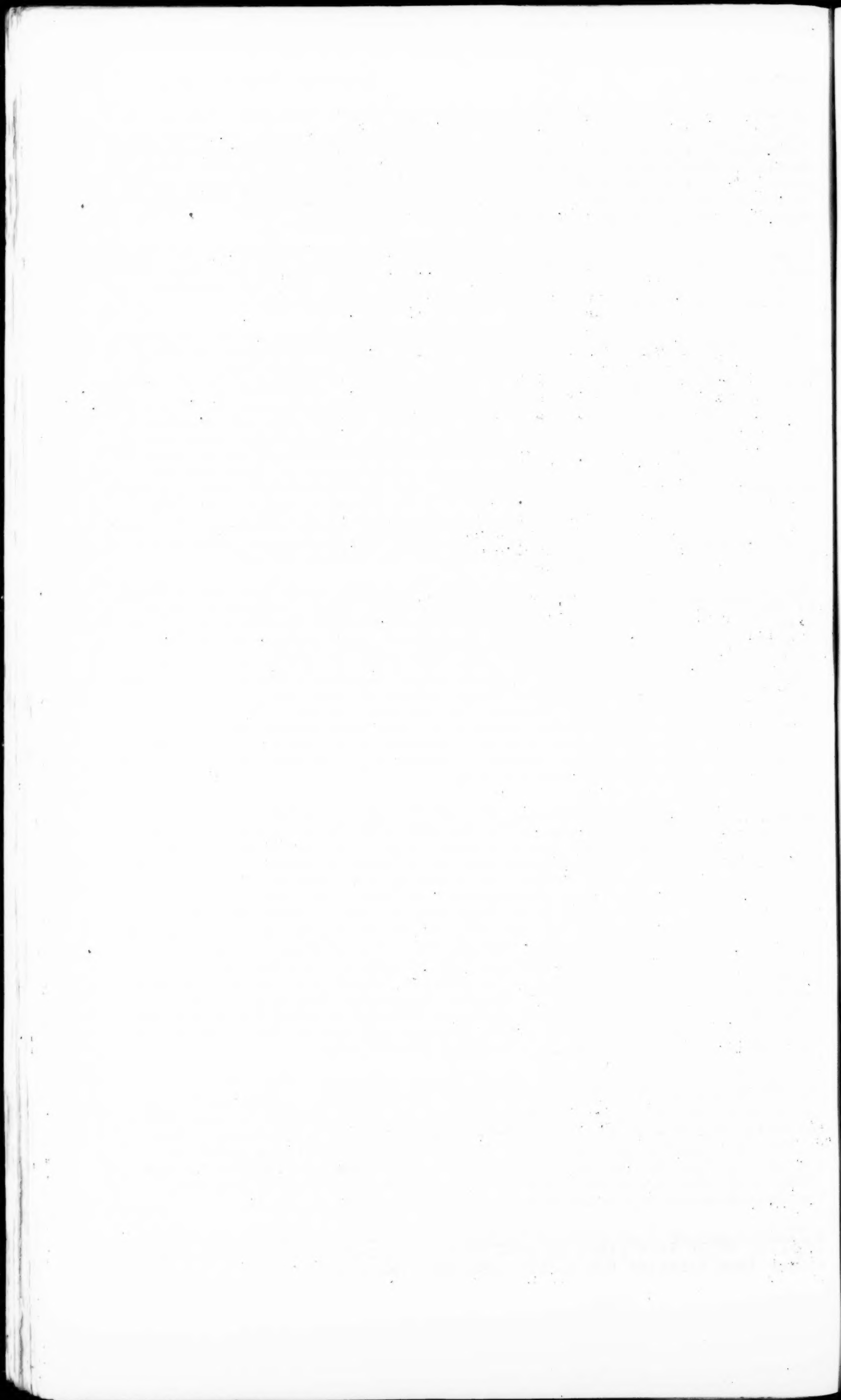
80TH BIRTHDAY OF PROFESSOR JOSEF HOFFMANN CELEBRATED. On the occasion of the 80th birthday of the great Viennese artist and world-renowned architect, Prof. Josef Hoffmann, which falls on December 15, the Austrian State Printing Office is organizing an exhibition of his work. The State Printing Office has also published an essay written by L. W. Rochowanski, with drawings by Josef Hoffmann and a portrait drawing by Emil Orlik. At the turn of the century Josef Hoffmann had been one of the founders of the so-called Vienna Secession movement, whose program was to have a decisive influence on the development of European art and handicraft in the decades to come. In 1903 Josef Hoffmann joined with Koloman Moser to establish the Vienna Workshop which paved the way for a renaissance of Austrian, and consequently European, arts and crafts. Plans are now afoot to organize a representative exhibition of Josef Hoffmann's works in New York in the spring of 1951.

NEW ART BOOK ON AUSTRIA PUBLISHED. The Anton Schroll Publishing House of Vienna, Austria's leading publisher of art books, recently issued a volume entitled "Austria, her Landscape and Art" (Oesterreich, Landschaft und Kunst), as part of its series of great bookplate collections, two of which -- "Tuscany" and "The Rome of Antiquity" -- have already been published. The book is large in format (30 x 23 cm.) and contains 336 full-page reproductions, engraved cuts and half-tone photographs with captions in German, English and French. These pictures represent the most beautiful landscapes, the most characteristic settlements and the most famous artistic monuments in Austria. The text of the book was written by Viktor Griessmaier, Director of the Library at the Vienna Museum of Arts and Crafts.

RECONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE IN VIENNA. The Church of St. Augustine in Vienna, which has not been in use since 1945 as a result of bomb damage but has now been fully restored with the exception of the organ, was reconsecrated as a house of worship by Cardinal Innitzer, Archbishop of Vienna, on November 26. The St. Augustine Church had originally been consecrated in 1349. In 1683 the Polish King Johannes Sobieski had a Te Deum sung in this church as an expression of thanksgiving for the liberation of Vienna from the Turkish siege. In 1810 it was in this church that the marriage of Marie-Louise and Napoleon was performed, and in 1851 it was the scene of Emperor Franz Joseph's marriage to Empress Elizabeth. Among the many notables of the past buried in the St. Augustine Church are the Augustinian monk and itinerant preacher Abraham a Santa Clara and the famous personal physician of Maria Theresa and one of the founders of the Vienna School of Medicine, Gerhard van Swieten.

VIENNA COLLECTION OF HISTORIC ARMOR TO BE EXPANDED. The famous collection of artistic and historic armor and military accoutrements in the Vienna Hofburg will soon be enlarged by the addition of some 200 harnesses which are still in air-raid shelters and storerooms. Some of the most prized pieces of the Vienna Armor Collection, which is one of the largest and most extensive collections of its kind in the world, have been shown in recent years in the Netherlands, England, the Scandinavian countries and the United States.

AUSTRIA'S SOCCER TEAM BEATS SCOTLAND. In an international soccer encounter, which took place in Glasgow on December 12, Austria's national soccer team defeated the Scotch national team 1 : 0.





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AUSTRIAN INFORMATION-12

NEW CENTRAL EUROPEAN SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP PLANNED FOR NEXT YEAR. Representatives of the Soccer Associations of Italy, Yugoslavia, Switzerland and Austria met in Innsbruck at the end of November and decided to establish the "Zentropacup" (Central European Cup), a new Central European Championship intended as the successor of the "Mitropacup" of the prewar era. Austria, Germany, Italy and Yugoslavia have already notified their participation. The matches are scheduled to begin at the end of the 1950-51 regular soccer season.

1951 WORLD BICYCLE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS TO BE HELD IN VIENNA. The International Bicycle Polo Association has decided to hold the 1951 World Bicycle Polo Championships in Vienna in the last week of October.

NEW COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS ISSUED IN AUSTRIA. The Austrian Postal and Telegraph Administration has issued a special 60-plus-15 groschen, emerald green commemorative on the occasion of the "Day of the Postage Stamp, 1950" (December 2 - 10, 1950). On December 5, 1950, it issued a 30-groschen, steel blue commemorative to mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of the famous Viennese actor Alexander Giradi. The "Day of the Postage Stamp, 1950" semi-postal shows a stamp collector looking at a letter through a magnifying glass, an open stamp album and a map in the background.

CHARITY CHRISTMAS SALE FOR AUSTRIAN CHILDREN. The Society of the "American Friends of Austrian Children", founded in 1948 by Mr. John Gorski, is holding a Christmas charity sale at the Hotel Buckingham, 101 West 57th Street, in New York. The proceeds from the sale will be used to defray the cost of the domestic freight charges for the U.S. surplus food gifts (milk, butter, eggs, cheese) which have to be brought from the Middle West to New York whence they will be shipped through the ECA to the port of Trieste. Among the items that will be offered for sale are various Austrian handicraft products, such as Tyrol glassware, period dolls, cutouts and belts.

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